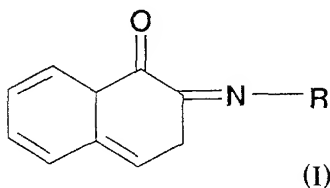


CLAIMS

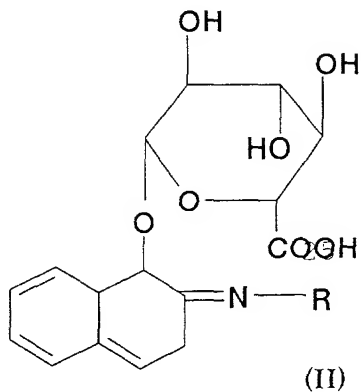
1. A method for treating and/or preventing  
glutamate-evoked cytotoxicity in a patient in need  
thereof comprising administering to said patient a  
composition containing a therapeutically effective  
amount of at least one beta-naphthoquinone derivative  
and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, wherein said  
derivative is selected among the group consisting of :

(i) compounds having the formula (I) :



wherein R represents  $\text{-NH-CO-NH}_2$ ,  $\text{-NH-CO-CH}_3$ , or  $\text{-OH}$  group, and

(ii) glucuronide derivatives thereof having the  
formula (II) :



wherein R is as indicated in (1), and

(iii) addition salts thereof.

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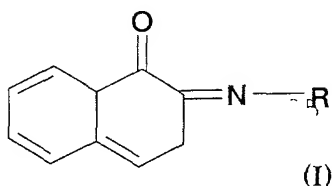
2. The method of claim 1, wherein said derivative is selected among the group consisting of the 1,2-naphthoquinone, 2-semicarbazone and the 1-(1-hydroxy,2-naphthyl)semicarbazide-1- $\beta$ -O-glucopyranosiduronic  
10 acid.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein said glutamate-evoked cytotoxicity is a glutamate-evoked neurotoxicity.

4. The method of claim 1, wherein said glutamate-evoked cytotoxicity is neurodegeneration.  
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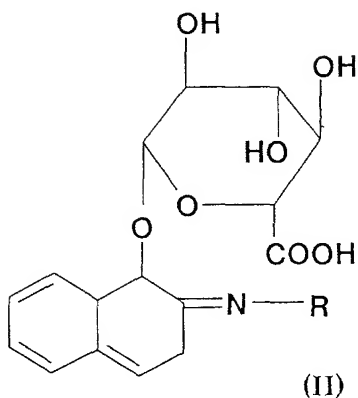
5. A method for modulating the release of glutamate in a patient comprising administering to said patient a composition containing a therapeutically effective amount of at least one beta-naphthoquinone derivative  
20 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, wherein said derivative is selected among the group consisting of :

(1) compounds having the formula (I) :



wherein R represents  $-\text{NH}-\text{CO}-\text{NH}_2$ ,  $-\text{NH}-\text{CO}-\text{CH}_3$ , or  $-\text{OH}$  group,

(ii) glucuronide derivatives thereof having the formula (II) :



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wherein R is as indicated in (i), and

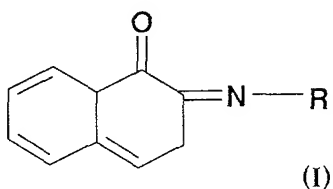
(iv) addition salts thereof.

6. The method of claim 5, , wherein said derivative is selected among the group consisting of the 1,2-naphthoquinone, 2-semicarbazone and the 1-(1-hydroxy,2-naphthyl)semicarbazide-1- $\beta$ -O-gluco-pyranosiduronic acid.

7. A method for inhibiting the release of glutamate in a patient comprising administering to said patient a composition containing a therapeutically effective amount of at least one beta-naphthoquinone derivative and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, wherein said derivative is selected among the group consisting of :

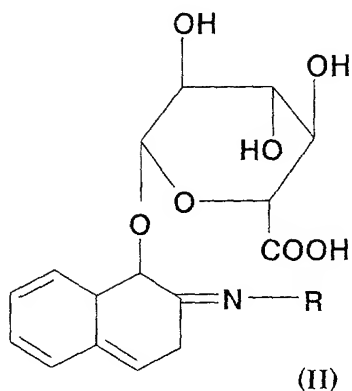
(i) compounds having the formula (I) :

25



wherein R represents  $-\text{NH}-\text{CO}-\text{NH}_2$ ,  $-\text{NH}-\text{CO}-\text{CH}_3$ , or  $-\text{OH}$  group,

- 5 (ii) glucuronide derivatives thereof having the formula (II) :



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wherein R is as indicated in (i), and

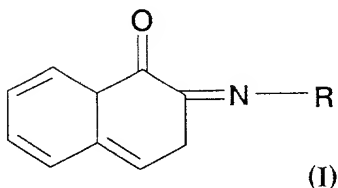
- (v) addition salts thereof.

8. The method of claim 7, , wherein said derivative is  
 20 selected among the group consisting of the 1,2-naphthoquinone, 2-semicarbazone and the 1-(1-hydroxy,2-naphthyl)semicarbazide-1- $\beta$ -O-gluco-pyranosiduronic acid.

9. A method for treating and/or preventing disease  
 25 and/or condition associated with the excessive release of glutamate in a patient comprising administration to said patient of a composition containing a therapeutically effective amount of at least one beta-

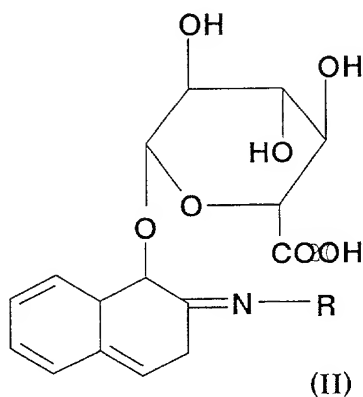
naphthoquinone derivative and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, wherein said derivative is selected among the group consisting of :

(i) compounds having the formula (I) :



wherein R represents  $\text{-NH-CO-NH}_2$ ,  $\text{-NH-CO-CH}_3$ , or  $\text{-OH}$  group,

(ii) glucuronide derivatives thereof having the formula (II) :



wherein R is as indicated in (i), and

(iii) addition salts thereof.

10. The method of claim 9, wherein said derivative is selected among the group consisting of the 1,2-

naphthoquinone, 2-semicarbazone and the 1-(1-hydroxy,2-naphthyl)semicarbazide-1- $\beta$ -O-glucopyranosiduronic acid.

11. The method of claim 10, wherein said disease  
5 and/or condition associated with the excessive release  
of glutamate is selected among the group consisting of  
epileptic seizures, acute and chronic neurodegenerative  
diseases, ischemia, Alzheimer's, Huntington's,  
Parkinson's diseases, multiple sclerosis (MS),  
10 amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS), spinal muscular  
atrophy (SMA), retinopathy, stroke and traumatic brain  
injury, drug-induced neurotoxicity, pain, hormonal  
balance, blood pressure, thermoregulation, respiration,  
learning, pattern recognition, memory, and disorders  
15 subsequent to hypoxia or hypoglycaemia.

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